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think'st thou that nature only dwells Where solitude his message tells— The only impress of her hand On somber peak and lonely strand— Sole tongue her mighty heart could find. In booming wave and whispering wind?

THE CITY'S VOICE.

Nay, in this strife the force remains
That struggled in old uplift strains.
Erst rose this cry of pave and mart
From out the grinding glacier's heart.
Maturer womb of Mother Earth That traveled with the Andes' birth Now bears to time these granite piles, Their walls of books, these sacred aisles. Not in an idle, aimless hour

Niagara received his power. Or carbon locked the sun rays fast, Or fir tree grew to spire and mast. Fond nature smiles with equal pride On vaulting dome and prairies wide. Her harpsichord the singing wires, er altars the electric fires

This human tide bears in its flow The wild unrest, the voice of woe, That first a lifeless ocean bore In pain to earth's primeval shore -Ernest Bross in Overland Monthly.

HARTLEY'S GREAT NERVE. Historical Incident of the Siege of

Gibraltar. The most memorable siege of Gibraltas, indeed one of the most memorable of all sieges, was that which the fortress sustained from the combined sea forces of France and Spain during the years 1779 to 1783. The great attack on the place was made on the 13th of September, 1789, and all the resources of power and science were exhausted by the assailants in the fruitless attempt.

It was on this day that a humble private performed an act which history has handed down to us. The business of the siege progressed. The rock by the batterice sent forth its splinters to deal destruction around at every impact of the Spanish shot, but the return fire was of the mout telling description and most steadily kept

up by the British. But removed from the smoke and din, in the laboratory of the garrison, sur-rounded by the chemistry of war, sat one man, a humble private. His it was, while his comrades worked the guns in the suffocating casemates of the covered batteries, to prepare the shells for the use of the mortars, a dangerous task-so dangerous in fact that even the examination of the deadly missiles is considered sufficiently perilous on board ship to warrant a stage being slung over the side to be occupied by only one or two men, the thers being kept at a distance. But amiliarity with peril robs men of their fear, and Hartley sat busily making ready shell after shell, filling them with the explosive composition, and afterward fitting in the fuses, driving them home and ranging the prepared shells in cases till they should be fetched to be sent in flery arcs to deal death and destruction among the

The laboratory was at that time full of explosive material, every grain of which was of inestimable value to the beleaguered garrison, and it had been accordingly placed in a position which rendered it impossible for the shot or shell of the enemy to reach it. But now the danger guarded against from without threatened if possible more terrible from within-threatened to destroy at one blow the whole of the explosive compounds stored for defense, and this at a time when such a loss would have been irreparable.

Shell after shell had been filled, the grim black spheres, as they lay ready, givng but small signs of their deadly power -the force that should rend them into innumerable shreds of cast iron, each to Suddenly, while calmly proceeding with

his work and driving a fuse into a fresh filled shell, the fuse took fire, hissing loudly as it discharged its rain of sparks and burning rapidly away. There seemed hardly time for thought, much less for action, and the first feelings of Hartley were those of blank dismay. He had seen the discharge and flight of

shells so often that he knew he could only reckon upon its burning for a few seconds, and then would come a dire explothe bursting of the shell being, as it were, but the flash in the pan that would prelude the blowing up of the laboratory. But with the calmness of the man whose trade was one which brought him daily face to face with death, Hartley seized the shell in both hands, hurried out into the open air and then with a tremendous effort hurled the deadly globe far into space where a couple of seconds after it harmcould thoroughly realize the great danger that had threatened him with destruction, perilous task .- London Chronicle.

The Last of the Witches. Yeldham, a highly civilized village in the county of Essex, is now in a happy and contented frame of mind. It has buried the last of the witches-the end of the long line of sibyls which commenced at Endor. Why the poor old lady should have been regarded as the possessor of an "evil eye" is a mystery known only to her superstitious fellow villagers, except indeed it was owing to the sorrows and misfortunes she suffered. Her daughter died a few days ago, and her brother was accidentally killed some hours afterward.

These calamities, instead of arousing sympathy, only led to a belief by the villagers that she cast her evil eye on them because, knowing her own departure was at hand, she did not wish to leave them behind. The poor old woman had a hard life among the villagers, who boycotted and insulted her on account of her alleged supernatural gifts, and attributed every petty accident that occurred in the locality to her malign influence. Now she is at rest.—London Telegraph.

In discussing the recent scandals as to high play among officers at Potsdam the Germania relates that when a similar revolation was made in the old emperor's time his majesty issued a very stringent order against gambling in the army. This provoked many private remonstrances on the part of the young guardsmen and others, and the venerable kniser was disposed to relax the severity of his decree. He found, however, a determined opponent in his youthful grandson, Wilhelm, who had recently been made a colonel of a

"Sire," cried the stern upholder of mo rality, "am I still at the head of my regiment or not? If I am, I intend to be master; if not, I beg to be relieved of my com-

Grandpa had to give way, and he signifled to the deputation that he would have as a rock." This at least is one of those things that aroull to "the colonel's credit." -London Chronicle A Kindergarten Conundrum.

prised as well as amused when a little girl quickly answered, "A combi" The teacher had placed one hand on a comb in her heir willow Observer

USING THE DRYDOCK.

A DIFFICULT JOB.

An Error of a Few Inches In Calculation May Hopelessly Ruin the Vessel-How the Risky Undertaking Is Carried Into Execution.

her hull for inspection, cleaning and repair. Its sides are sloping and arranged in steps like an amphitheater. Entrance is effected through a passage that can be closed. The big Brooklyn dock is 500 feet long when the caisson that closes the entrance is in place, 130 feet wide at the top and only 50 feet at the bottom and has a depth that insures 251/2 feet of water on her threshold, or sill, at mean high tide. It is a far more delicate job to put a vessel into a drydock properly than the uninitiated imagine. Upon the precision with which this undertaking is carried in to execution depends the very life of the ship. An error of a few inches may result in injuries that will cost thousands of dollars to repair, if they do not hopelessly ruin her. The aim of the officer in charge of this work is to get the ship in such a position that when the water is pumped out of the basin she will sink down on to a series of carefully arranged blocks along the central line of the dock. The Oregon, for instance, has a displacement o about 10,000 tons, and her weight is all borne on 870 of these supports, called "keel blocks." This is about 120 tons to a block; hence the need of evenly distributing a vessel's weight on these blocks. The outline of one vessel differs from another, however, and an arrangement o blocks that would exactly suit one would

be sure to wreck another. It is custom ary, therefore, at naval docks to prepare an elaborate "docking plan," in advance whenever a ship is to be docked. Drawings of the vessel herself are carefully con sulted in order to ascertain the precise shape and length of her keel, the position of the struts that support her screws (if she be a twin screw vessel), her rudder and her bilge keels, if she has any. The officer in charge of the task—he belongs to the construction bureau—also has meas urements of the dock into which the vessel is going. He then makes a plan in which the position of the ship is predetermined to an inch-to a tenth of an inch in fact. The keel blocks are all arranged in advance. On either side of the dock or the stone coping chalk marks are placed to indicate where her bow and stern ar

The great floating steel dam, or caisson that serves as a gate to the dock is first hauled out of the way. Stout tugs then seize the vessel and work her around gradually into the basin. If the vessel is a ropes in the hands of a dozen men will suffice. When she is nearly in place, the caisson is awung back across the opening. Water is then admitted to sink it until i rests on the bottom. Subsequently, when steam pumps have exhausted the water from the basin, the pressure of that outside against the caisson holds it firmly in

Meantime the officer in charge is directing the final steps in the task of placing the ship. Lines have been run from the bow and stern of the vessel out to the sides of the dock and thence to huge capstans By heaving away on one of these and slacking up another the ship can be moved forward or backward, and the right combination of strains will bring her to any

desired position. Opposite the bow and stern, on eithe side of the dock, at the chalk marks previously left there, have been set up portable stands called "battens," by means of which whether the ship is correctly placed longitudinally. Another set of battens at the the range for determining if she is centrally situated with reference to the sides. sion that would act upon the part of the the middle of lines that stretch across the fortress where he was like an earthquake, dock at the bow and stern and that sag enough to allow the plummets to go a inch or two below the surface.

lessly burst. It was not until some time | the sides of the dock against each side of after that the performer of this daring act | the vessel are adjusted spars, called and though the peril was past it was vent tipping over sideways when the ship some time after, and then only with un- finally rests on the keel blocks. If the strung nerves, that he returned to his ship is evenly balanced, the shores will press very gently against her, but if she is they may punch holes in her sides.

seldom needed.

Two or three coats of paint are then applied in rapid succession, special compositions being used that dry quickly. One of these is designed to protect the plates from corrosion and goes next the metal. The outermost coat is intended to prevent or discourage fouling. Various trifling or important repairs are made while the ship is in dock, and if any great weights are to be removed and restored a huge derrick is brought into play. The cleaning and painting can be done inside of 24 to work under the ship as well at night as by day. Removal, like admission, must be con-

ducted at high tide. The dock is gradually filled. The shores are taken away, and the ship is held in place only by moor ing lines. As the water comes in she is lifted off the blocks. Some of the water in the hollow caisson that dams the entrance is also pumped out to float it. The calsson is swung out of the way, and then the ship is cautiously hauled out.—New York Tribune.

A varnished floor is the frequent resource of those who cannot afford to keep

-New York Tribune.

GETTING A WARSHIP IN AND OUT IS

A drydock is a huge basin in which a vessel may be placed and from which the water can be exhausted in order to expose

one can sight across the dock and tell head of the dock and on the caisson give In this latter inquiry the officer's assistants are guided by plummets adjusted at

It is also necessary, if the burden is to be borne as it should be, that the ship shall stand upright and not have any "list." In case she is tilted over, even slightly, to one side this difficulty is overcome by shifting the weights on board before the pumping out of the water lets the ship come down on her supports. From "shores." These occupy a nearly horizontal position and are designed to prenot properly balanced there is danger that

It takes about two or three hours to oump out the small granite dock at the Brooklyn yard and about five hours to empty the big timber dock. As soon as the water is out the ship's sides are carefully examined. Men on scaffolds that swing from her sides scrape off the tiny snailshell-like barnacles and the long, hairy weed that they find there. This is done with a brush in which the bristles are of wire. Whenever, as rarely happens, the surface of a ship is found to be corroded a sand blast is employed to clean the surface, but this operation is costly and is

hours, and if there is a hurry electric lights can be placed so as to enable men

Care of Floors.

waxed floors polished. It is satisfactory unless it is stepped on. No varnish is made that will not in time crack off under the impress of the nails in the average shoe or boot of the day. If varnished floors are covered where the footfalls of the household come, they will present fairly good appearance for some time, but ish made of two parts oil, raw, one part of turpentine and one part of alcohol. Sometimes, for economy, the alcohol is omitted.

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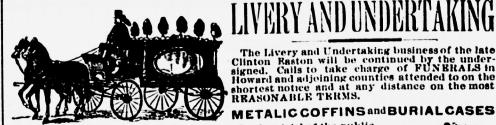
BALTIMORE, MD. RESOURCES, December 31st, 1897: PAID-UP CAPITAL

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ly and in attractive style.

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of the most approved and tasteful designs. I ask a trial of the public, EMBALMING SKILLFULLY PERFORMED.

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MILTON EASTON, Manager. | MRS. ANNIE EASTON.

In a Utica kindergarten school a few it is usually necessary to renew the vardays ago the subject before the class was nish once a year. An oiled floor is the best floor for a kitchen. Such a floor the hen. Among other questions asked THE OLD STAND, MAIN STREET, ELLICOTT CITY, MD. 🧀 by the teacher was "What does the hen should not be scrubbed, but swept and have that we have?" the teacher at the cleaned with kerosene at least once a same time placing both her hands on her head to indicate the portion of the body week. Once every two or three months, according to the wear, the oiled floor referred to. The teacher was much surshould be cleaned and rubbed with a pol-